



This goose, designed by J.N. "Ding" Darling, has become the symbol of the National Wildlife Refuge System.

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

Bear River

Migratory Bird Refuge

Hunting Regulations

Welcome

The Bear River Migratory Bird Refuge was established in 1928 to protect feeding and breeding grounds for migratory waterfowl. Located on the north end of the Great Salt Lake at the mouth of the Bear River, the Refuge has long been recognized as an area of prime importance to the nation's waterbirds. Migratory waterfowl, shorebirds, and other waterbirds, as well as resident wildlife, depend on the Refuge as a production, feeding, resting, or wintering area.

Managed by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the Refuge is one of over 545 refuges in the National Wildlife Refuge System – a system of lands set aside to conserve wildlife and habitat for people to enjoy today and for generations to come.

The Refuge headquarters is open Monday through Friday from 8:00 am to 4:30 pm, except on Federal Holidays.

General Refuge Regulations

Vehicles and Parking

- Only legally licensed vehicles are allowed on the Refuge. Motorized off-road wheeled or tracked vehicles, such as motorcycles or all-terrain vehicles (ATV's), may not be used on the Refuge.
- Parking is permitted in designated parking areas only, and is strictly enforced. Space in some lots is limited to prevent crowding in popular hunt areas.

Fires and Camping

Fires and camping are prohibited on the Refuge.

Littering

Please pack out any trash generated during your hunt, including spent shot shells.

See the Refuge general brochure for additional information.

Refuge Hunting Regulations

Ducks, geese, coots, tundra (whistling) swans, and pheasants may be hunted as described in the following sections. Hunting any other wildlife species, including furbearers (fox, raccoon, skunk, etc.), is prohibited.

- Tundra swan hunting requires a special Utah State Permit. Swan hunting is permitted in all areas open to public hunting.
- Current Federal and State regulations apply for seasons, hours, and bag and possession limits. Consult the Utah Waterfowl Proclamation (available at the Refuge headquarters and all sporting goods vendors in Utah) for a complete list of State regulations.
- Archery hunting is not allowed on the Refuge.
- Entering hunt units prior to the opening day of hunting season is prohibited.

Hours

- For hunting purposes, you may enter the Refuge 2 hours before legal sunrise and must exit the Refuge by 2 hours after the legal sunset.
- Decoys, boats, vehicles, and other personal property may not be left on the Refuge overnight.

Hunting Areas

- See map on the reverse side for locations of open hunting areas.
- No hunting or shooting is allowed within 100 yards of primary Refuge roads, parking areas, or observation platforms.
- Respect private property along the Refuge boundary.

Retrieving

- Do not cross the Refuge boundary to retrieve downed birds.
- Hunters may not enter closed areas to retrieve birds. Be sure to allow enough room between the closed area boundary and where you are hunting to retrieve your birds.

Firearms

- When hunters are in their vehicles at parking lots or traveling on Refuge roads, all firearms must be completely unloaded (including the magazine), and cased or dismantled.

Special Shot Restrictions

- Non-toxic shot is required. No lead shot may be used or carried afield on the Refuge.
- You may only possess 10 shells while hunting within 50 feet of the center of the Unit 1A and 2C dikes (see map).

Boats

- Small motor boats are permitted in all hunt units. Utah State laws requiring registration and safety equipment apply.
- Boats may be launched at designated boat ramps only.
- Air boats are permitted only in Unit 9 and Block C (See map).

Blinds

- The use of pit and permanent blinds is prohibited. Only temporary blinds made out of natural materials are permitted on the Refuge.
- Blinds may not be built on the Refuge prior to the opening day of hunting season.
- All blinds are available on a first-come, first-served basis, regardless of who set up the blind.